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If our friends who favor us with manuscripts for publication wish to have rejected articles return they must in all cases send stamps for that purpose

A Futile Alliance.

The assistance WHITELAW REID is receiving from the Mugwump newspapers in his attempts to revenge his political disappointments by perpetuating discord in the Republican ranks indicates that he has been fully initiated as a member of that fraternity. They are binding up his wounds tenderly and consoling him with sympathetic malignity against the Republican party.

The New York Times, Tribune, and Even ing Post are now joined in an offensive and fensive alliance for the purpose of breaking up the Republican organization in this State and giving over New York to complete Democratic domination next year.

This hostile demonstration, however, is not dangerous, the sinister motives impelling the allies being too obvious to all intelligent Republicans. The party harmony and solidity against which they are intriguing so childishly will be far beyond the reach of such malevolent influences before the beginning of the momentous campaign of 1898.

Mr. James Bryce on Our Annexation Programme.

In the leading article of the Decembe Forum the policy of annexation for America is discussed by the Right Hon. JAMES BRYCE, well known to our readers as the author of "The American Commonwealth." The facts he has in view are the annexation of Hawaii proposed in the treaty which the Senate will be presently asked to confirm, the suggested purchase of the Danish West India Islands, and the possibility, if not probability, that Cuba's attainment of independence would lead to her becoming a member of our Union. He undertakes to show that, by the acquisition of these or any other transmarine possessions we should lose more than we should gain.

Mr. BRYCE is a skilled advocate, but he is not convincing in this instance. Some of his assertions are ill-founded, and some of his admissions are fatal to his purpose He says, for example, that, if Hawaii and Cuba belonged to us, we should have to create a navy equal to that of England or France; otherwise, the islands would be wrested from us in the event of a war with a stronger maritime power. Such a result would be by no means unavoidable. If the two islands mentioned were ours, we should so fortify their more important points as to render these entirely defensible against a naval attack. There is no basis, either, for the statement that there is no room for Anglo-American colonists in Cuba or Hawaii. The present population of Cuba is only about a million and a half, and it is undoubtedly capable of supporting a population equal to that of Java, exceeds twenty millions. It is equally certain that, on the interior uplands, and along the coasts, except in lowlying and marshy districts, the climate is quite as suitable to Americans of British, Irish, or Teutonic descent as is that of our South Atlantic and Gulf States. Mr. BRYCE should be at the pains to note how before taking for granted that they would table Ac if its climate does not suit Americans, it is difficult to understand how a few thousand of them can have been, for so many years, the dominant element there. With regard, also, to the number of inhabitants which the Hawaiian group would be able to sustain, we need only observe that it formerly contained a much larger population than it does now, and that only a fraction of its arable area has been, as yet, put under the plough.

Another thing which we cannot accept is Mr. Bryce's assertion that islands like Cuba and Hawaii are needless for defensive purposes. He does not deny that both islands in the hands of a hostile power would constitute coigns of vantage which we might well regard with apprehension. But the contingency, he says, will not occur; no European power, as he believes, will ever attack the United States. The assumption is not based upon experience. We have had one war with England in this century; we came near having another about the Oregon boundary; we were within measurable distance of a third, when the Washington treaty created the Alabama Commission. Again, the position taken by Mr. CLEVELAND in his Venezuela message would have rendered war inevitable had not Lord SALISBURY agreed to refer the boundary of British Guiana to arbitration. We narrowly escaped a war with France in the days of the First Republic and First Empire, and, again, in the reign of LOUIS PHILIPPE, and we should have been driven to hostilities had not NAPOLEON III. withdrawn his troops from Mexico. The reason given by Mr. BRYCE for his belief that European powers would never attack us strikes us as curiously weak, The reason is that, owing to the enormous size of our country, an attempt to penetrate its interior would have as little chance of success as had Napoleon's invasion of Russia. We answer that a hostile power might make no attempt to penetrate our interior, yet might inflict upon us incalculable and irremediable injury. A large proportion of our national wealth and at least a tenth of our population is concentrated in our coast wise cities. No other country in the world is in this respect so vulnerable. Passing over Chicago, Buffalo, Cleveland, Detroit, Milwaukee, and other great centres of in dustry, which lie on the lakes and might possibly escape attacks from British gunboats, the list of our maritime cities, which stand exposed to a hostile fleet, include not only the Federal capital, Washington, and the commercial metropolis, New York, but Philadelphia, Baltimore, Boston, San Francisco, New Orleans, Mobile, Savannah, Charleston, Portland, Newport, and other

towns of considerable magnitude. So long as this state of things exists and it will exist forever, or until Americans adopt the cowardly Chinese policy of placing their habitations many leagues back from the sea, it will be a matter of vital moment to us to deprive pos-

sible enemies of those islands close to our own coasts which would serve as stations for coaling and repair. Long before the age of steam our forefathers approthe strategic value of the Bermudas to this country, and, when Independence was declared, projected the capture of those islands, a plan which could not be carried out, owing to England's ascendancy at sea. One needs only a glance at a map to perceive the strategic importance of Cuba to our Gulf States, and equally obvious will be its relations to the prospective Nicaragua Canal. As to the Hawallan Islands, considered from a strategio point of view, Capt. A. T. Manan has pointed out that, should we gain possession of them and fortify their harbors properly it would be impossible for a French, German, or Japanese fleet to undertake operations against San Francisco; we should then need only to fear the English in the Pacific, and then only because, thanks to the blunder made about our Oregon boundary, they have a station for coaling and

repair in British Columbia In still another particular Mr. Bayon is misinformed. He says that " in Cuba there are many creole Spaniards, but many more negroes and mulattoes." The statistical truth is that, in Cuba, the people of pure white descent outnumber those who have any trace of negro blood in the proportion of nearly two to one. Equally unreasonable is it to say that the Cubans of pure white descent are unfit for free institutions. Their brethren in Chili and Argentina cannot be accused of such unfitness and the Cubans are even better qualified for self-government, many of them having been educated in the United States. So far, then, as the character of its population is concerned, there could be no possible objection to the admission of Cuba into our Union as a State. Far from the colored inhabitants constituting a majority there, as is the case in South Carolina, Mississippi, and Louisiana, they form, in reality, a weak minority. The case of Hawail is undoubtedly different in this respect. But the difficulties could be easily surmounted by establishing at Honolulu a territorial government similar to that

purchase of Louisiana from France. We do not think that Mr. BRYCE will make any converts, either in Congress or in the community at large, by his antiannexation article. Such exhortation comes somewhat oddly from the citizen of a country which has annexed everything within its power over the whole surface of the globe, and which, except in the case of Tanglers and the Ionian Islands, has never, willingly, relaxed its grasp.

devised for the Orleans Territory after the

The Kiao Chon Bay Affair, If it be true that, as the Pekin despatches say, Baron von HEYRING has demanded of China the occupation of Kiao Chou Bay as a German coaling station and also a railroad concession in Shantung province, not only have the obstacles to an amicable arrangement been greatly increased, but the ulterior purposes of Germany have been frankly disclosed.

The discovery and execution of the man who murdered the two German mission aries, a reasonable indemnity for the relatives of these victims, the punishment of the implicated officials and the reconstruction of the destroyed mission buildings are all proper demands. But what have the cession of a coaling station and a grant of railway privileges to do with that crime? It may be said that a foothold in China will aid Germany in preventing or punishing similar atrocities, and that a railroad from the station to the interior is a proper appurtenance to the station. But it is plain that there is no connection between these territorial covetings and the mob vio-

lence for which China is willing to atone. It has been reported that the unlucky commander of the Kiao Chou forts, which were abandoned to Germany without firing a shot, will be executed. That may be acwell Anglo-Americans thrive in Florida | cording to Chinese precedents, but perhaps he really did China a service by his discreet withdrawal. The German ships seem to have been strong enough to capture the forts, and had they done so, at the cost of life, Germany might have insisted, with more reason than now, on keeping Kiao Chou Bay. At present China has a chance of limiting the indemnity to its proper subjects, although that chance may depend largely on the intervention of Russia or some other power to save her.

The Man for the Hour.

These are great days and anxious nights for the anti-organization Republicans, that is, the Republicans who dislike the present Republican organization because it seems to them blind to their merits, and tyrannically unwilling to allow the minority to rule. The anti-organization Republicans are conscious of a gift for power. With strong communings and wrestlings they are seeking, as they have often sought before, for a chance to exercise their gift. Lyric Hall quivers to their complaints.

It is strange, but seems true, that the vast cohorts of anti-organization Republicans, leaders all, are laboring under the difficulty of finding a leader. As flaming protesters against a Boss, they cannot be happy until they have found one. Who shall he bef Gen. WAGER SWAYNE waves the honor away. The Hon. WIL-LIAM BROOKFIELD is one of the most accomplished anti-organization leaders known, but there seems to be a feeling that anti-organization organizations led by him and Gen. SWAYNE become uncomfortably small. Gen. Anson G. McCook, one of the most self-sacrificing of patriots and one of the most hopeful of enrollers, seems to have been wearied by his recent labors for reform. He, too, refuses to organize antiorganization. A concern consisting entirely of bosses cannot find the destined boss. Long conferences must yet be held. Perhaps to-night or to-morrow night may reveal the man for the job. It must be remembered in estimating the difficulty that the specialty of all the chiefs yet mentioned or likely to be mentioned as worthy of the boss-ship has been anti-organization, not organization. As organizers or reorganizers they have not burned any of the navigable waters of the United States in

If the veterans decline or are declined, and some dark horse is to be selected to prance and jingle in the old harness repaired and varnished, the Hon. C. N. Jones of the Twenty-first Assembly district is the steed for the hour. He is a Republican of the truest anti-organization principles. His Assembly district is perhaps more prolific than any other in varieties of anti-organization movements. Finally, he has a political record that will endear him to those antiorganization Republicans who are weary of the old leaders who rush with such impetuosity for the ditch. At a meeting of the Citizens' Union of the Twenty-first

these parts.

Hon. CHARLES N. JONES " attracted the attention of the meeting by declaring that it was the first political gathering he had ever attended in his life."

Mr. Jones is the man for the anti-organisation Republicans. They have tried professionals to no purpose. Now is their time to take an amateur, and see if they cannot change their luck. The fact that Mr. JONES is at present engaged in "the movement to make a permanent municipal party out of the Citizens' Union organization only makes him more eligible for the honor of boss-ship in the sister anti-organization. The anti-organization Republicans have been engaged for some time in an attempt to make a permanent party of any kind out of themselves, and hitherto Fortune has given them but a frosty hand.

With all their experience and all Mr. JONES's inexperience, what may they not accomplish in the way of being a sign and testimony against every organization and enrollment except their own ?

Germany and Hayti.

The official documents which present Hayti's side of her controversy with Germany are now accessible, and make her case atronger than it at first appeared to be. To begin with, EMIL LUEDERS, for whose imprisonment, under a sentence of the Haytian court, the Berlin Government demands an indemnity, while claimed as a German subject, and as such inscribed at the German Legation, is really a native of Hayti and born of a Haytian mother, which would make him a Haytian under the law

In the next place, Hayti shows that when Count SCHWERIN, the German Minister. demanded the instant release and indemnification of LUEDERS, he did this in a personal audience with President Sam. so violating well-established international etiquette, which required him to put his communication in writing, and present it through the Foreign Secretary, Count SCHWERIN has plainly overridden diplomatic usages in his contempt for little Hayti as compared with the powerful empire he represents, and has employed "the tone of an ultimatum," as Hayti's circular to the Diplomatic Corps at Port au Prince expresses it.

It will be remembered that the peril threatened by this arrogant course was avoided by the timely interposition of our Minister, Mr. W. F. POWELL, who asked for the release of LUEDERS as an act of courtesy to the United States, whose interests would suffer from any disturbance or threatened bloodshed. This request was granted, a decree of pardon being issued on condition that LUEDERS would leave Hayti at once, while the right was reserved to forbid his return.

The chief difficulty seems to arise from the severity of the sentence imposed on LUEDERS, that of \$500 fine and a year's imprisonment. This is naturally regarded as very heavy penalty for his attempt to prevent the policemen from entering his stable to arrest his coachman. But it appears that a Haytian, arrested for the same offence, received the same sentence, and it is further said that LUEDERS had been convicted of a similar resistance to the police the year before, and that this was the real ground of the severity of his sentence.

The note of Hayti's Foreign Secretary to the diplomats at Port au Prince referred to the excitement over the Lueders incident, provoked by the arrogance of Germany, and said that the republic had been "established at the cost of very great sacrifices, which his countrymen were prepared to repeat in order to maintain their independence and the majesty of their legal administration." We trust, however, that the affair will not reach the point thus hinted at. Germany will undoubtedly claim some indemnity for LUEDERS, although it may not be so extravagant as that proposed by Count Schwerin. His instructions from Berlin of Oct. 17, received in reply to his telegram, were to demand "immediate release, complete indemnification, and punishment of Judges and policemen." A Berlin despatch says that, with the re lease secured, only money indemnity will now be asked. Perhaps the good offices of our Government may yet be invited to settle this matter. Hayti would presumably welcome them, and Germany looks with approval on the fact that Mr. Power, procured the release of LUEDERS, and that the little German colony of perhaps seventy persons was taken under American protection. Meanwhile the usual winter inspection of Navassa Island affords a reason for the prudent step of sending the Mar blehead to Gulf waters.

A Faithful Public Officer.

When, on Monday, the convicted black mailer known to criminal annals as "Big HAWLEY" was sentenced in the Supreme Court to five years' imprisonment, he at tacked District Attorney OLCOTT, the pub lic prosecutor, as convicted defendants often do, crying out viciously and hys terically: "I will bury him beneath a Pike's Peak of white paper! I will drown him in a Mississippi of printer's ink!"

The official term for which Mr. OLCOTT was appointed by Governor Morton will close on the last day of the present month. and his successor for a two years' term has already been elected. The impudent outbreak of this convicted criminal came at an opportune time, therefore, for it served to draw public attention to the vigorous and successful administration of the present District Attorney. Without flourish, and with little friction, an enormous amount of public business has been de spatched, criminal court calendars cleared. as, perhaps, never before, and summary convictions gained in a larger number of

important cases than has been the rule. The exacting duties of the District Attor ney of this county have been faithfully and fearlessly performed by WILLIAM M. K. OLCOTT, and the 70,000 New York electors who cast their votes for him and for his reëlection made no mistake.

The Political Fifth Wheel.

If the so-called "National Democrata have any pretext for a distinct political existence anywhere, it is certainly in Nebraska, the home of W. J. BRYAN and the main rallying point of the Bryanized Democracy. The "National Democrats" of Nebraska have been standing up to be counted ever since the first wave of Populism engulfed the Democratic party in that neighborhood. They made a more consistent and courageous battle for the maintenance of their principles than did their brethren in Kansas, who as early as 1892 joined with the Populists of that State on an electoral ticket.

The futility and the rapidly diminishing chances of a separate battle for what these Democrats of Nebraska called at their State Convention of April, 1896, "com-Assembly district, last Friday night, the mon honesty and a just regard for the

rights of our creditors," are shown by the following returns of the vote polled by them in the years named :

1899 *************** 18,680 9,798 1897... 715 This is political warfare on a sliding scale, with little margin left for a reduction next year, when a Governor of Nebraska and other State officers are to be elected. It must be obvious to every intelligent person who is not completely confused and

bewildered by the radically changed and permanently altered conditions of Federal politics, that the National Democrats, so called, are not causing any anxiety to the Bryanites, but so far as they go are distracting votes from the Republicans, upon whom devolves, and must continue to de volve, the battle for the maintenance of what nearly two years ago the Nebraska gold Democrats described as "common honesty and a just regard for the rights of our creditors." Democrats who are sincere in this con viction have made common cause with the

Republicans, and are to be counted for the present as supporters of the Republican ticket in national contests. Those who re gard honesty in public policy as a question of compromises and concessions, and not of positive obligation, have gone over to the Bryanite column where, presumably, they will remain. The political residuum the unabsorbable gold men who polled 718 votes in Nebraska this month out of a total of 200,000, is the National Democrats, who probably will be proportionately about as many in other States. Nowhere have they shown any strength this year, and nowhere have they given evidence of the power to attract to their standard any recruits. In New York they went down in humiliating defeat by indorsing Low for Mayor; they could not even poll votes enough to preserve their right to a separate nomination hereafter.

The National Democrats are the fifth wheel of the American political coach, as the election of Nov. 2 demonstrated.

The Proposed Armor Plant.

While the place of primary interest in the discussion of the ship armor problem will be occupied by the forthcoming report of the board appointed specially to consider it, yet the opinion of the Naval Ordnance Bureau on the subject must certainly carry much weight.

Capt. O'NEIL does not besitate to give the opinion, in his first annual report, that "the Government can purchase armor more cheaply than it can manufacture it." If that is so, there is an end of the business, because the main object of starting Government manufacture would be to get the plates cheaper. Other things being equal, private industry is better than the entrance of the Government into the proposed new manufacturing fields.

On what, then, does Capt. O'NEIL base his assertion? First, on the ground that the making of armor should properly be the adjunct of a great commercial steel plant," instead of a separate and special undertaking, as it would be in the hands of the Government. Foreign practice, he declares, confirms this view, and if the Government should set up an armor plant, this would be done not only at great orig inal cost, but with the certainty of deterioration, since it must lie idle a large part of the time. Even when operated, the cost and difficulty, he holds, would more than offset any advantages gained by Government ownership.

These views accord with the experience of our own and other countries. It may be said that we have found an advantage in the making of cannon by the Government, both at West Troy for the army and at Washington for the navy. But in these cases the forgings, rough bored, are furnished by private foundries, and the Government establishments are really finishing factories.

It has been suggested by another bureau officer that the best way would be for the Government to contract for the ship with her armor complete, instead of making two contracts, as now, one for the hull and machinery and the other for armor. But without going into the arguments for and against that proposition, which, by the way, the Ordnance Bureau has hitherto opposed, it may be said that the present necessity is of a different sort. The contracts for the battleships Illinois, Alabama, and Wisconsin have already been given out, and no contracts for their barbette, turret, and side armor have been made.

Another point to consider is that, apart from the cost of an armor plant, the time required for its erection would delay the new battleships, whereas the two private establishments could go on with the work at any moment; and Capt. O'NEIL justly praises their armor products as equal or superior to any others in the world.

Words have their histories as well as coun-tries. Some of them begin with high meanings and depreciate. Others grow from small to large mean-ings. Charity has a spiendid all-indusive significa-tion. It was probably derived from the French word

Dr. ADLER is entirely right in his definition of the word "charity," but its etymology goes much further back than he suggests. If he will read the Epistles of Sr. PAUL in the Vul gate version he will find the Greek word for love", used by the apostic, frequently rendered by the Latin "caritas," whence comes our English "charity."

Our valued contemporary, the Louisville Dispatch, is rather tardy in its discovery that the opportunities in the Klondike have been nagnified by those who seek to make the im pression upon the public mind that the world's supply of gold is practically inexhaustible,' and that "it is all a part of the scheme to convince the public that the supply of gold in the world is ample to furnish safe basis for the world's currency, and that silver is no longer necessary to a sound system in the best informed "silver circles" that the Klondike was "salted" by the Money Devil for the express purpose of ruining 16 to 1 and the hopes of humanity.

The Hon. WILLIAM MORRIS STEWART, proprietor of our esteemed contemporary the Crime of 1873, is in Nevada seeking reclec tion to the United States Senate. "The old man is not down yet," he says, "and we will show them that we have plenty of strength with the people before we get through." Judging Mr. STEWART by his speeches he never through, and the populous State of which he is an ornament will be permitted to hear his voice not less than twenty-four hours a day. Nevada cannot afford to reject this enduring statesman The Senate cannot afford to lose its most trust worthy eight-day clock. The Congres Record cannot afford to lose its most prolific

"Captain" E. L. Howe seems to be occu pying Wichita, Kan., and preparing to invade the Wichita Reservation in spite of the Govern "We shall ask Congress," says the "Captain," "to open the reservation or allow to go into the mountains and take

We shall wait a reasonable time, and, if our petition is not granted, we shall move upon the land. I've got the men to do it, and if these Indian police or do it, and it these indian police or agents interfere, there will be graves all over the reservation, and many a regular will lie down with the rest, too, if the Federal troops in-terfere." We infer from the vigor and sternness of the "Captain's" language that he is Spaniard, and lives habitually on hot-coal soup and fire fritters. The Indian police and the Federal army have due notice. The "Captain" or the Government must move on.

If the office seekers were to spend as much time and energy in attending to their private busi-ness as they do in running after a will o' the wisp they would earn twice as much as they could it office, and be far more contented and happy.—Spring field Union.

Perhaps they would and perhaps they wouldn't. Or, rather, some of them would and some of them wouldn't. After all it is their own private business whether they want to get office or not. Likewise their own private business whether they are contented and happy or not. Much superfluous indignation and sympathy are wasted on the office seekers. The fellow who wants two-dollar-a-year Postmastership and the fellow who wants the Presidency are office seekers of equal guilt and equal innocence. Only in Mug rumpla does the office go hunting the man, and it never finds him even there, for he is always hunting the office a good deal harder than it can hunt him. silver Republican candidate for District Attor

Mr. ROBERT REED Ross, Republican and sey in the Third Kansas Judicial district, has filed a bill of campaign expenses which should be studied by the young campaigners of the Citizens' Union. Mr. Ross "expended in Prowess county for cigars, cards, &c., \$25; in Las Animas county, for cigars, candles, and other refreshments \$100." It is needless to say that the moralist must de-plore the sum spent by Mr. Ross for cards, cigars and other refreshments, un-less ice cream and soda are included among the sundries; but the introduction of candy into politics must be received with a warm hand. A Citizens' Union tract done up in a package of assorted candies would be welcomed in many ouseholds which at present are blind to the peauties of municipal non-partisanship. Dr. SETH LOW in red and white sugar would be lovely idol; and JIM REYNOLDS, stamped of ough drops, would be restful as well as sweet.

Everybody outside of Georgia is getting cold by standing bareheaded and gazing ear nestly at the Georgia Legislature. No sconer have the master minds in that body hurled themselves tremendously at football than they begin to hurl themselves tremendously at lif insurance. There is a bill before them to lay a tax on life insurance policies. The life insurance companies are regarded by the master minds as guilty of being rich, and the policy holders as guilty of being thrifty. "Sock it to the plutocrats," cry the master minds. Phrenologists and alienists all over the world are staring at the Atlanta exposition of intellect.

The recent great conflagration in London What do you mean ! The big fire!

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: There is a great deal of flippant talk about the girl stenographer, her with which she takes to bicycling; hence it seem pertinent that a more serious phase of the question

The recent experience of a competent young woman tenographer in search of work may serve to throw light on the up-to-date business man's view of the worth of her services and the regard he has for her young woman of experience and education, found it necessary to pursue the fleeting advertisement and chase the "permanent and pleasant" position offered by a man of apparent culture, and, after spending forty cents earfure in trying to get an interview, finally succeeded in catching him. He wanted, he said, a woman of education and wide reading, one willing to move to a suburban town, where the office of the publication he conducted was situated, but as of the publication he conducted was situated, but as the work was of a somewhat philanthropic character, he proposed to place the stenographer's salary on a corresponding basis, offering her the munificent sum of \$\mathbb{8}\$ per week. He suggested that her family move to the suburb, where an apartment could be procured for \$\mathbb{1}6\$ per month. He had not, to be sure, considered the question whether the family could obtain work in the suburb, being too much engaged in philanthropy to trouble himself about such pairty details. Her next interview was with a man who had from forty to sixty letters a day to be written, and his price was \$\mathbb{0}\$ per week. When asked how he expected an educated, self-respecting woman to exist on that amount he replied that that was no concern of his. It is undoubtedly true that the calling is overcrowded, yet the need for organization to fix and preserve living wages is urgent and must be apparent to every reflecting member of the fraternity.

The young "chewing gum" girl turned out daily by the numerous schools is a drug in the market. She has a home, but wants "pin" money. She cannot appil, she cannot punctuate, she cannot read her notes correctly, but she is cheap, and cheapness is the spell, she cannot punctuate, she cannot read her notes correctly, but she is cheap, and cheapness is the standard of excellence it would appear, if the pittance offered by many prominent business men may be accepted as a fair criterion.

No self-respecting woman in the city of New York or its suburbs who has berself to support can possibly afford to work for less than \$2 per day. It is time that men who want women's services in this capacity should understand this fact, and it may be opportune to suggest that editorials addressed to this phase of the matter may do more good in creating a whole some public opinion than those that consider the sentimental side only.

A MERSER OF THE FRATERNITY.

NEW YORK, NOV. 29.

London's Incident Fire Service.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir : I cannot but adnire Mr. Lafort's persistent and dogged faith in the nethods of the London fire brigads. His letter in to-day's SUN has the true English ring about it, and while I respect the patriotic way in which he sticks up for the obsolete methods of his mother country, I annot agree with him in his arguments, and still selleve that London could profitably copy a few ideas from this city, or any other American city.

If the people in the large cities of this country had waited for a big confiagration to tell them that their fire protection was insufficient, they would probably have any cities to-day to protect. Because Lond not have any cities to-day to protect. Because London has hitherto been free from hig fires, or the loss of life at fires has been small, is no argument against her improving her system and putting it on a plane with other important cities of the world. It has probably been more luck than the efficiency of her fire service that has made her escape a serious fire before this; and the calamity of Friday a week ago proves conclusively that her fire brigade is utterly incapable of fighting a serious confingration. The steady descrease in fire losses in this country during the past ten or twenty years proves that the American idea of providing for emergencies before they arrive is a good one, and while Mr. Lafort seems perfectly well satisfied with London's fire service in its present condition. I am confident that the English people in general, and the Board of Fire Underwriters of that country in particular, are not quite so contented, and he is likely to find his native fire system radically changed for the better when he returns home. I hope so, as least.

New York Nov. 29. ope so, at least. New York Nov. 29.

A Name for the Breeklyn Bridge.

To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: A notice in your paper of to-day of a meeting of the Trustees of the New York and Brooklyn Bridge, coupled with several sugestions you have published recently concerning estrable celebrations of the wedding of the two cities, each of which suggestions had for its objective point the bridge, moves me to ask why would this not be a good time to give the poor thing a name? It is now called, if you happen to be at this end, "The Brooklyn Bridge," if at the other end "The New York Bridge," and if at both ends, like the board of trustees, "The New York and Brook) yn Bridge." I suggest that it is old enough to be christened, and that Jan. 1, when the consolidation of the two cities goes into effect, will be a good time to do it and that 'The Union Bridge" will be a suitable name. What to you think of the idea? W. J. L. DAVIDS NEW YORK, Nov. 29.

The Parkburst Nuisance

To the Editor of The Sus-Sir: The thanks of all Greater New York and the United States in general are due to THE SUN for its editorial in to-day's on "Parkhurst's Villfication of Platt." strikes the nall on the head and drives that nall right through the board of sensational hypocrisy which the "Rev." Parkhurst has been holding up ever since his delightful east side journeys.

May Be the Oldest McKinley Veter.

From the Indianapolis Journal. PORTLAND, Ind., Nov. 27 .- According to the statements made by himself, William Sloan Greene, who lives a few miles from Portland, is 110 years old to day, having been born in Philadelphia, Nov. 27, 1787. Mr. Greene is still in good health, has fair eyesight and hearing and is able to get around with little dimculty, but age has impaired his memory to some ex-tent. He thinks he was the oldest man in the United States to cast a ballot for William McKinley.

WE PACCINATE THE ARMS. et for Lymph Awarded to the Nev

The health departments of all of the leading cities of the United States and the leading vaccine laboratories of Europe sent samples of vaccine virus to the Surgeon-General of th United States Army, who had asked for the same, wishing to enter into a contract with whichever would produce the best vaccine virus that could be obtained.

Yesterday the New York Health Board was informed that its proposal to furnish the army with lymph had been accepted. With the official notice came an order to send quantities of the vaccine virus to Fort Sheridan, Illinois, and to Fort Columbus, Governor's Island, Superintendent Craig, who is in charge of the

lymph department, immediately filled the orders.

ernment contract," said Secretary Golderman.

We have good reason to be proud of our Gov

Since 1895 the vaccine laboratory of the New York Health Department has been experimenting with and investigating the methods employed in various parts of the world for the production and preservation of vaccine virus. The choice and care of animals, the places, methods, and virus most suitable for inoculation, the time and manner of collection, and the preparation and preservation of virus after collection have all been subjects of study. The most notable vaccine laboratories in Europe and this country have been visited and their practice studied. In consequence of these investigations modifications in the methods followed here have been made; but the most important is the entire change in form of the vaccine virus issued and recommended for use. For instance, the virus formerly employed was the serum, which issues, after scraping, from the base of a vaccine pock, dried on quills or ivery points. The old-fashioned points physicians could purchase in the drug stores. But these are all done away with, and we now have a liquid glycerinated puip. The function of the glycerine is to produce a homogeneous mixture, and to act as a harmless antiseptic against germs accidentally introduced. To show you how careful our department is let me say that before the virus derived from an animal is issued, a regular autopay is performed on the animal and the organs are carefully examined for any evidence of disease. Then a sample of the virus is subjected to a bacteriological examination, and a second is forwarded to our clinical tester for test. No virus is allowed to go out unless the reports of our pathologist, bacteriologist and clinical tester are all satisfactory. I am satisfied that we are away ahead of the best French and German vaccine laboratories. None of them as careful. So it is no wonder the Government wants our virus for the army. The health officials believe that many health officers in other cities will use New York virus, and a form of circular letter has been got up to be sent to the departments of other cities. York Health Department has been experimenting with and investigating the methods em

NO GENERAL LEGISLATION. epresentative Cannon Says It Is Imp

at the Coming Session. WASHINGTON, Nov. 30. - Among the Con essional arrivals in Washington to-day wa Representative Cannon of Illinois, Chairman of he House Committee on Appropriations. With the frank, breezy abandon which is character istic of the man, Mr. Cannon, in answer to th question "Do you think there will be any im portant general legislation at the approaching ession t" said:

"I do not. I think it is impossible, and ought not to be undertaken. There is no sense in die tracting the country and unsettling things by fruitless agitation. The Republicans have no a majority in the Senate, and cannot legislate. What is the use of our snorting around and agi

What is the use of our snorting around and agitating the country about what we might, should, or would do if we could."

It being suggested that at the last session the Tariff bill was passed by the votes of an antagonistic Senate, Mr. Cannon responded:

"We did not have a Republican Senate, but Democrats and Populisis and everybody else realized that more revenue was a necessity and the opposition shrunk from the responsibility of depriving the Government of necessary revenue. The one proposition was put before them and nothing else allowed to come up to distract attention. The whole country was crying out for action, and all eyes were fixed upon the Senate. Under these circumstances they could not help but act. Next session the situation must necessarily be different, and it will be impossible to force the Senate again. We have done what we could, and more than could have been done without great perseverance, skill, and determination. We have a tariff law which will produce sufficient revenue. We have a good currency—a currency perfectly safe as long as present conditions are maintained, and we have not the power to enact any new legislation which we might regard as desirable."

desirable."

Speaking of the probable appropriations, Mr. Cannon expressed the opinion that no radical change would be made in the policy that had been pursued in the Fifty-fourth Congress. No new projects would be provided for, but existing contracts would be liberally provided for. An earnest of this was shown in the action of the sub-committee in charge of the Legislative. Executive, and Judicial Appropriation bill. It decided, after hearing Supervising Architect Taylor, to make the appropriation for his office the same as for the present year.

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE OPENED. Secretary Wilson Compliments It on Its Work

Ala., Nov. 30 .- The fall the Normal and Industrial Institute, of which the Rev. Booker T. Washington is the President, was opened to-day under conditions that indicate the great interest felt in the work being done by the institution among the n groes. Secretary of Agriculture James F. Wilson made an address and so did Gov. Joseph F. Johnston of Alabama. Ex-Gov. Northen of Georgia was a prominent figure, and almost all the State officers of the two neighboring States

the State officers of the two neighboring States were present.

The absence of the colored politicians of the State was noticeable, but in their place there were substantial colored farmers who have corn in their cribs and cotton yet unsold. After the singing of patriotic songs. Dr. Washington read letters of regret from President McKinley, Chief Justice Fuller, Blabon C. B. Galloway, Morris K. Jesup, the New York hanker: Bishop H. C. Potter, W. E. Dodge of New York, and many others. The college balls were tastefully decorated and the grounds were arranged to show the handiwork of the students. Statistics were given sh wing the great demand for farmers in all parts of the South. The fact is that Dr. Washington has always in his possession applications for graduates, so that the students of to-day have awaiting them renumerative places.

places.
Secretary Wilson complimented the institute
on its work and promised the students to make
a special report to President McKinley of the
impression they had made upon him.

THE OLD SLEEPY HOLLOW ROAD. Mr. Bookefeller Wants It Closed and Would Onen Auother in Its Place. TARRYTOWN, N. Y., Nov. 30.—At a meeting o

the Board of Trustees of North Tarrytown last night, John Cosgrove, Martin La Farge, Constantine Millerly, A. Esponson, and John W. Beatty, Freeholders in the town of Mount Pleas ant, petitioned the board to discontinue the old Sieepy Hollow road, and to alter, widen, and im prove Webber avenue. It is known that the petitioners made the request in behalf of John D. Rockefeller. Mr. Rockefeller owns over half D. Rockefeller. Mr. Rockefeller owns over half of Pocantico Hills. Bedford road, the present avenue leading to the Hills. Is quite steep and is in bad condition. Webber avenue is a better road and more level, and would give an easy grade to the Hills. If Mr. Rockefeller's desire be granted he will give some of his land and straighten and widen that avenue, and will build the balance of the road through his property to the Hills and throw it open to public use. The old Sleepy Hollow road is rarely used. It cuts through Mr. Rockefeller's property, and he wants to do away with it. A special meeting has been called for Monday, Dec. 13, for the people to vote whether or not they will grant Mr. Rockefeller's desire.

BROOKLYN'S TANGLED FINANCES. Conference Between Comptroller Palmer and Comptroller-Riect Coler.

Comptroller Palmer of Brooklyn and Comp roller-elect Coler of the Greater New York had a conference yesterday in reference to the tan-gled condition of Brooklyn's finances, which has postponed the payment of the November salaries of the city employees and other current obries of the city employees and other current obligations. The system which resulted in the
muddle was fully explained to Mr. Coler, and it
is expected that he will acquiesce in the plan
hitherto followed of drawing on the tax moneys
paid in December to meet the November obligations. The Aldermen, it appears, have been relieved from the embarrassment of going without their money, their sainries having been
paid as far back as Nov. 15, a week ahead of
the discovery of Comptroller Palmer that the
finances were in such a state.

Arrigating Ditches in Mexico

CITY OF MEXICO, Nov. 30 .- The Governmen has granted concessions to a French syndicate, represented by Pablo Leroll, for the building of 300 miles of irrigating ditches in the State of Chiapas and a railroad through the district to be irrigated. The syndicate are required to ex-pend 25,000,000 francs.

POSTMASTER-GENERAL'S PLANS. They Include, Gen. Gary Says, the Con

Postmaster-General James A. Gary, who stopped in this city yesterday with his daughter at the Waldorf-Astoria, expressed his belief in the success of the proposition to consolidate Post Offices within a radius of fifteen or twenty miles of large cities, making the main city office the central office of administration and placing superintendents in charge of the various smaller offices as branch stations. The idea, which was started under Gen. Gary's predecessor, has taken definite form now, the General said, and he purposes furthering it to the extent of his power. To that end he desires the repeal of the Gorman-Pasco amendment, which was passed to protect county seats and prevent them from being absorbed under the consolidation plan, and which prevents the absorption of the Brooklyn office in the New York office

tion plan, and which prevents the absorption of the Brooklyn office in the New York office in the Rew York office in the Brooklyn office in the New York office in the Brooklyn office in the New York office in the Rew York of the Post Office is instead of being known as stations. However, the benefits which small places not within the corporate limits of the city with the Post Office is instead of being known as stations. However, the post office is instead of being known as stations. However, the post office is instead of being known as stations. However, the post office is instead of the Rew York office is instead of the city with the Post Office of which they are consolidated will enjoy, the Postmaster-General said, will be free delivery. A very great advantage to the department at Washington will ensue under the new plan, in the relief which it will bring from multifudinous reports, he said, the reception of reports from more than 72,000 offices in the United States making a great deal of labor as Washington. Under the new system the various branch offices will, of course, report to their own chief offices. The free delivery at some of the smaller places will be made possible by the saving in expense of operation by the new system. Fourth-chase Postmasters, or some of them, will benefit by the new arrangement in that they will become first-class superintendents and so be protected by the classified civil service rules, instead of being removable appleasure. The tenure of position. Gen. Gary said, "will depend upon good behavior and efficiency, not upon political faith."

Gen. Gary desires a change in regard to the second-class post, and says that if that were brought about we might have penny postage on first-class malter, or at least be in sight of it, for the \$11,000,000 shortage of the department last year was chiefly due to the second-class

TO IMPROVE CUSTOMS METHODS. Special Treasury Commission Coming Here The Des Brissy & Allen Case.

The Secretary of the Treasury has designated six special Treasury agents as a commission to make a thorough examination of customs methods at this port. Agents Cross, Whitehead, Cummings, Smith, Gallen, and Power are the six. The examination has not been ordered because of any irregularity, but for the general purpose of improving the service, and doing away with unnecessary methods, The examination will begin on Monday next.

Collector Bidwell, on a recent visit to Washington, requested Secretary Gage to designate mission of Treasury agents to make the examination. A number of intricate matters which came up in the closing days of Collector Kilbreth's administration are to be straightened out. Complications then arose between the Collector's office and the Naval Office as to methods of procedure. The commission is to delve into those matters and is also to look into affairs in the offices of the Surveyor and the Appraisor.

One of the most important complications to be looked into, it was said, will be the liquidation of the entries made for drawback by Des Brisay & Allen. A special Treasury agent has looked into these entries, it was said, from an impartial standpoint, but Secretary Gage purposes, through the commission of Treasury agent has appointed, to go into the matter still deeper. The folks in Washington, in the Treasury Department, it was made known, do not quite understand the personal interest that Chief Clerk Amos Sage of the Naval Office has appeared to take in Des Brisay & Allen's entries. Some of the Treasury people have been heard to say that Mr. Sage has appeared more in the light of an advocate for Des Brisay & Allen than an impartial Government employee, and that his letters to the Treasury Department at Washington on the matter bear this out. which came up in the closing days of Collecto

LIBERALS WIN.

The Policy of Sir Wilfrid Laurier Indorsed in

TORONTO, Nov. 80 .- The Liberals carried the bye election in Centre Toronto to-day by a majority of 268 for their candidate, George Ber tram. It was the most important election held in Canada since the general election of 1896, by which the Liberals were returned to power at Ottawa after the Conservatives had been ruling for eighteen years. Special importance s attached to to-day's Liberal victory, because it was the first of the bye elections since the general election in which the issues have not seen more or less obscured by religious or other

side matters. In Centre Toronto to-day the issue was a straight one—the policy of the Dominion Premier Sir Wilfrid Laurier. The result was a Premier Sir Wilfrid Laurier. The result was a complete vindication of that policy and is regarded as a decisive Liberal victory. Bertram, the Liberal candidate, a steamboat builder with large financial interests in Toronto, had declared himself opposed to any changes in the tariff for the next ten years, and the Conservatives taunted the Liberals on that account with having recanted their free trade principles, but Bertram's declaration on the tariff rallied the Conservatives and Liberal business mea around him and caused Howland's defeat.

The Liberals, at the general election, won their majority in the house from the French province of Quebec. In Ontario they had no majority. To-day's election, which was contested with great determination by the Conservatives, shows that the Liberal administration is gaining in popularity in this part of the country, where 'it was weakest. Centre Toronto was carried by the Liberals at the lass general election by a somewhat smaller majority than to-day, but for twenty consecutive years had previously been held by the Conservatives.

OUR TARIFF ON CANADIAN TIMBER. Sir Otiver Mowat Regrets That the Duty Me Been Increased.

TORONTO, Ont., Nov. 30 .- Sir Oliver Mowat. the newly appointed Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario, opened to-day the last session of the Ontario Legislature to be held before the general election. In the speech from the throne allusion was made to the action of the United States Congress in reference to Canadian labor

"I regret that the Congress of the United States has seen fit to increase the duty on pine and other lumber imported into that country to such an extent as to make it almost impos to such an extent as to make it almost impossible to continue sending to the markets of the United States certain qualities of the pine lumber produced in this province."

No mention was made in the speech of the policy the Ontario Government will pursue on the timber question, whether they will leave the law as it is or insert a clause in licenses to be issued next year compelling the manufacture in Canada of all timber cut in Ontario, and thus prohibiting the exportation of saw logs to the United States. The Licutenant-Governor told the members that a bill would be introduced by the Government relating to timber and timber licenses.

The session is likely to be a short one, and a general election will probably follow early in the new year.

TEMPTATION OF A HUNTER.

Hook Saw a Beer, Had to Shoot It, and Then West and Informed on Himself WILLIAMSPORT, Md., Nov. 30 .- John Hook, a veteran hunter from Capon Bridge, Hampshire county, W. Va., while out after squirrels could not withstand the temptation to shoot a deep that crossed his path, although he know that is was against the law. It was a fine animal, was against the law. It was a fine animal, weighing 204 pounds, and he had to hire a horse and wagon to get it home.

He then went into the town of Capon Bridge and informed on himself before Justice Hott. The latter fined him \$20 for violating the Game law. The law says that one-half the fine shall go to the informer, and Hook's friends say that he is entitled to half of the sum he paid to the magistrate. he magistrate.

Cork Payement Strips on Murray Hill. Gen. Collis asked the Aldermen yesterlay to

allow him to let, without advertising, the contract for laying two strips of cork pavement, each ten feet wide, in Fifth avenue, between Thirty-fourth and Thirty-sixth street, at a coat Thirty-fourth and Thirty-sixth street, at a cost not to exceed \$1,600. Permission to lay this pavement was granted by the Board of Estimate some time ago, and the contract was awarded to the Barber Asphait Company, which is laying the new pavement in that part of Fifth avenue. Subsequently, however, Corporation Counsel Scott gave an opinion that the contract could not be let without advertising unless the Board of Alderman consented. Gen. Collis's required was laid over.